

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION Mid-Pacific Regional Office 2800 Cottage Way Sacramento, California 95825-1898

MAR 2 2 2010

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

participate in this effort.

On behalf of the Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation, I invite you to participate in the Water Conservation and Recycling Roundtable. This event is hosted by six Federal agencies led by Reclamation, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in conjunction with the State Water Resources Control Board, California Department of Water Resources (DWR), and the California Department of Public Health.

On September 29, 2009, six Federal agencies – the Department of the Interior (DOI), Department of Commerce, USDA, Department of the Army, EPA, and the Council on Environmental Quality – signed the California Bay-Delta Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU established a Federal Leadership Committee to coordinate the Federal response to the California water crisis and to facilitate a partnership with the State of California in addressing California's water supply and environmental challenges. The MOU also committed the Federal agencies to develop an Interim Action Plan on an expedited basis. Water conservation and recycling are part of the Interim Action Plan. The Interim Federal Action Plan for the California Bay Delta can be accessed at: www.doi.gov/documents/CAWaterWorkPlan.pdf

The Interim Action for water conservation and recycling is intended to encourage more efficient use of Bay-Delta water by intensifying and aligning Federal water conservation and recycling efforts with efforts of the State and affected communities. Specifically, the Administration has committed to focusing efforts to help reduce demand in targeted regions. This will be done by fostering better dialogue and coordinating the funding and technical assistance that the Federal Government provides through a variety of programs operated by USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Reclamation, the EPA, and the USACE. State agencies will also

The Water Conservation and Recycling Roundtable is the first step in hearing from stakeholders to better understand the extent of the challenges they face and what they are doing to address these challenges. You have been identified by the Federal and State roundtable sponsors as someone who will bring an important perspective and therefore we request your participation in this important meeting. In attendance will be:

- Pete Silva, Assistant Administrator, EPA
- Dave White, Chief, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA

- Michael Connor, Commissioner, Reclamation, DOI
- Mark Cowin, Director of DWR
- David Nawi, Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior
- Other high-level executives from the Federal and State agencies

How will the Roundtable ideas be used: The ideas and recommendations identified during this Roundtable may be used to inform related water recycling and conservation actions, including demonstration projects, described in the Interim Action Plan, including:

- Identifying priority areas for accelerated planning assistance;
- Building upon existing USDA/DOI initiatives to provide conservation assistance to irrigation districts;
- Exploring opportunities for water recycling efforts for urban areas;
- Identifying how best to bring Federal support to bear for the greatest environmental, water supply, and water quality gain;
- Ensuring data availability for effective planning for future fresh water use; and
- Focusing on-farm efforts directed toward water conservation and other conservation purposes and increasing participation in voluntary programs.

The agenda of the Water Conservation and Recycling Roundtable is attached. Details of the Roundtable are:

Date: Thursday, April 8, 2010

Time: 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Doubletree Hotel, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA 95815

Please RSVP by Monday, April 5, 2010, to <u>roundtable@mpxtranet.info</u>. If you have questions, please contact me at 916-978-5010 (TTY 916-978-5608) or e-mail parroyave@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

Pablo R. Arroyave

Deputy Regional Director

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